

1. (Amended) A system for authenticating download of software to an information device, comprising:

at least one external device capable of transferring the software to said information device, wherein the software is associated with an information owner remote from said external device, and wherein said software is transferred by said external device as delegated by said information owner; and

said information device configured to perform an acknowledgment process, wherein said acknowledgment process produces a verifiable acknowledgement of the transferred software and sends said verifiable acknowledgement to said information owner for validation by said information owner.

3. (Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein said verifiable acknowledgment can only be interpreted by said information owner.

4. (Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein said verifiable acknowledgment is a digital signature uniquely related to said transferred software.

11. (Amended) The system of Claim 4, wherein said digital signature is produced using a cryptographic key resident on said information device.

13. (Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein said software comprises new instructions to be stored on said information device.

14. (Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein said software is an update of existing instructions stored on said information device.

15. (Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein said software is a deletion of existing instructions stored on said information device.
16. (Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein said software comprises an applet.
19. (Amended) A method for an information owner to download software to an information device, said method comprising the steps of:
 - a. the information owner delegating, to a third party, download of said software to the information device; and
 - b. the information device computing an acknowledgment of said download of said software;
 - c. the information device making said computed acknowledgment available to the information owner; and
 - d. the validating party verifying the computed acknowledgment.
24. (Amended) The method of Claim 19, wherein said software is new instructions to be stored on said information device.
25. (Amended) The method of Claim 19, wherein said software is an update of existing instructions stored on said information device.
26. (Amended) The method of Claim 19, wherein said software overwrites existing instructions stored on said information device.
27. (Amended) The method of Claim 19, wherein said software comprises an applet.

Please add the following new claims 34-37: